

Atty's Docket:Beiersdorf 755-WCG
USSN 10/009,056
BRUSS et al.

CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

If any extension of time for this response is required, Applicants request that this be considered a petition therefore. Please charge the required fee to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

ADDITIONAL FEES

Please charge any further insufficiency of fees, or credit any excess to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

REMARKS

Applicants gratefully acknowledge that Examiner has indicated allowable subject matter in claims 4-7 and 9. However, it is believed that the foregoing amendments overcome the prior art rejections.

Claims 1-10 are pending in the application, and have been rejected under various statutory provisions. In response, Applicants submit the attached sheet of claim amendments and the remarks below. New claims 11-14 are added.

No amendment or new claim is believed to introduce new matter.

Favorable consideration and withdrawal of all rejections is requested.

§ 112, 2nd Paragraph

Claims 4 and 5 have been amended to clarify the term "optionally multi-ply" and to recite the process in more easily discernible steps. The amended claim recites "at least one layer comprising..." as the basis for preparing a plaster that is *optionally multi-ply*.

The rejections of claims 6-9 are requested to be reconsidered in view of claim 6 being an independent claim, and not encompassed by the rejection to claims 4 and 5.

However, claim 6 was amended to overcome the rejection based on the alleged indefinite references to first and lower layers. The amended claim clearly set out first,

Atty's Docket: Belersdorf 755-WCG
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and second layers, rather than first and lower layers. Claim 7 has been amended to properly correspond to newly amended claim 6.

Anticipation by Andrews or Naestoft

Claims 1-3, and, 1-3, 6, and 8 were alleged to be anticipated by Andrews and Naestoft, respectfully. Both references are cited for disclosing the desirability of silicone-based water repellents. See Office Action, bottom page 3, continuing on page 4.

Claim 1 has been amended to cancel the reference to the silicone-based repellents. Thus, the claim recites fluorocarbon and/or hydrocarbon repellents.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the anticipation rejections is requested.

With respect to claims 4, 5 and 9, Applicants point out that the water-repellent paper or film disclosed in the method claims should not be confused with the claimed plaster. This water repellent paper/film is known in the art as a casting substrate -- a device for holding and shaping the polyurethane dispersion. Its water repellency should not be confused with that of the plaster itself, as it is completely unrelated to the plaster of claim 1. See specification, page 5, lines 18-23.

This water repellent casting layer is removed as the last step in the processes in claims 4, 5 and 9, and thus, is not part of the completed article.

Obviousness Over Andrews in view of Goetz

Claim 10 is rejected as allegedly suggested by Andrews in view of Goetz.

Applicants believe that the foregoing amendments are sufficient to overcome the cited combination of references. This is based on the fact that Goetz is cited for disclosing siloconized release papers -- "antiadhesive carrier material." This layer is completely distinct from the casting layer.

The combined references do not teach or suggest all claim limitations in claims 1 and 10. Accordingly, the rejection under § 103 may properly be withdrawn.

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CONCLUSION

Applicants request favorable reconsideration of the application in view of the amendments and remarks.

It is believed that the claim amendments address all of the rejections under §§ 102, 103 and 112, 2nd paragraph. The claims are believed to clearly recite the proper steps for preparing the plaster.

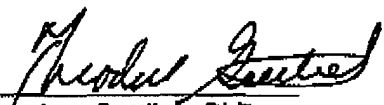
As stated, none of the references disclose the desirability of employing a combination of a polyurethane film with fluorocarbon and/or hydrocarbon water repellents.

Therefore, allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Should there be further issues to be discussed or resolved, Examiner should feel free to contact the undersigned at any time.

Respectfully Submitted,

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